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Message Text

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44
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 IO-12

EB-11 STR-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 RSR-01 /151 W
---------- 058275
R 260944 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9266
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR, DM, NI
SUBJECT: KEREKOU VISITS LAGOS

REF: LAGOS 2223; COTONOU 0559

1. DAHOMEAN CHIEF OF STATE KEREKOU PAID ONE- DAY VISIT TO LAGOS APRIL 21, MOST OF WHICH WAS SPENT IN TALKS WITH GOWON

IN COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED FOLLOWING VISIT, TWO CHIEFS OF STATE NOTED CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONS AND AGREED SEEK WAYS OF STRENGTHENING AREAS OF COOPERATION; STREESED NEED FOR CLOSER WEST AFRICAN REGIONAL TIES AND REITERATED INTENTION WORK FOR WAEC " CUTTING ACROSS LANGUAGE BARRIERS AND EMBRACING ALL STATES IN REGION"; AND PAID TRADITIONAL HOMAGE TO OAU PRINCIPLES AND LIBERATION EFFORT. GOWON ACCEPTED KEREKOU INVITATION TO PAY RETURN VISIT TO DAHOMEY AT UNSPECIFIED " MUTUALLY CONVENIET" DATE.
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2. IN DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE, KEREKOU SIAD MAIN PURPOSE HIS QUICK VISIT WAS TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONTACT WITH GOWON AND TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH NIGERIA. HE DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF COCOA SMUGGLING FROM NIGERIA INTO DAHOMEY BUT PROMISED INVESTIGATE, AND ASSERTED THAT TAX ON GOODS IN TRANSIT THROUGH DAHOMEY DESTINED FOR NIGERIA WAS INTENDED ONLY TO DISCOURAGE IMPORTERS OF GOODS ON NIGERIA' S OWN RESTRICTED LIST.

3. COMMENT: KEREKOU VISIT CIAL CONTACTS BETWEEN HUNGARY AND THE UNITED
STATES. WE DISCUSSED THE PROSPECT OF ADDITIONAL TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND WERE GREATLY ENCOURAGED BY THE INTEREST DEMONSTRATED BY THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT.

6. " ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WERE DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY THE WARMTH OF OUR RECEPTION HERE AND SHARE THE INTEREST OF THE HUNGARIAN OFFICIALS WHOM WE MET IN IMPROVING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES."
PUHAN

UNCLASSIFIED
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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